

Report on meeting of Crediton Area Association of Local Councils (formerly Crediton Cluster)
held 21st July

- 1) Tamsin Frances from the Ted Wragg Trust came to talk about the future of QE School. She emphasised that most decisions have yet to be made about the location and nature of the school. She was, however, able to share this information with us:
 - For the next few years, the Barnfield site will continue to be used. It is receiving a new roof and boiler to enable this.
 - College House is being refurbished.
 - They have requested a reduction in the intake numbers from 210 to 180. This is based on the current projection of numbers in primary schools (most of which are not full) and taking into account housing developments. New housing developments are not providing the number of pupils that they used to. More older people are moving into them, reflecting Devon's aging population. It is also important to note that it is not economic to run a school for 210 pupils/year when only 180 turn up/are funded. What they have to do is run the school at the current required size, while planning to meet future needs. Their request has not yet been accepted.
 - They hope to maintain a sixth form, but sixth forms are expensive and not really viable with less than 100 pupils/ year.
 - The long-term plan for the school is not yet determined but they foresee the Barnfield site having a role. However, access is too poor to encompass the whole school over the long-term. New housing development may change this.
- 2) Section 106 – a report was presented by MDDC showing what and where S106 money could be used. I am concerned that it cannot be used for noticeboards. I asked if it could be used for warning signs. They are finding out for me.
- 3) Footpaths – Richard Ward is setting a group to plan a systematic plan for footpaths across the whole community to give a coherent active transport plan. Graeme will be joining this group.
- 4) Higher Road Crediton. This is in a poor state and will be brought to the attention of DCC.
- 5) There will be a State of The District conversation on 17th September.
- 6) There is, as yet, no final plan for the local government reorganisation. This has to be in place for November 28th !